

## **REMARKS**

In response to the Restriction Requirement of May 22, 2008, applicant has elected to prosecute claims 98, 110 and 111 in the subject U.S. patent application. The right to file one or more divisional patent applications, directed to the inventions or groups of inventions not selected for prosecution in the subject U.S. patent application is expressly reserved.

As indicated above, claims 68, 75, 98 and 114 have been amended. With respect to claims 68 and 75, minor errors have been corrected. Claim 98 has been amended to again recite that the dimensionally stable support plate is metal. Claim 114 has been amended to recite that the plate is sheet metal.

This election is made with traverse. In the Restriction Requirement, the Examiner has asserted that since there were "X" references cited in the International Search Report, that the inventions listed as Groups 1-38 do not relate to a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1. It is to be noted that in response to the International Search Report, an Amendment Under Rule 34 was filed by applicant's principal representatives on March 22, 2005. In the IPER which was issued on February 9, 2006 claims 1-65 were all determined to have novelty. Claims 1-31 were also indicated as having inventive activity. Claims 32-65 were indicated as not having inventive activity but were still indicated as having novelty.


The claims which were the subject of "X" references in the International Search Report, are not the same claims as were discussed in the IPER. As noted in the Preliminary Amendment, the claims filed in that Preliminary Amendment were essentially the same, in scope, as the claims which were set forth in the IPER. It is thus not believed to be an acceptable basis for an *a posteriori* holding of a lack of novelty based on the citation of "X" references against claims which do not correspond, in scope, to the claims that are now pending in the subject U.S. patent application.

Withdrawal of the Restriction Requirement, and an early and favorable Office Action on all of the claims now pending in the subject U.S. patent application, is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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